

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TAIPEI 07272 061013Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 /062 W
-----065270 061448Z /44

R 060945Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5724
AMEMBASSY ROME
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 7272

ROME ALSO FOR OFFICER IN CHARGE OF VATICAN AFFAIRS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDIP, TW, VT
SUBJECT: NEW ROC AMBASSADOR TO THE VATICAN

REF: (A) TAIPEI 7049, (B) HONG KONG 14847

1. FOLLOWING OFFICIAL CABINET CONFIRMATION OF HIS
NOMINATION AS ROC AMBASSADOR TO THE VATICAN ON DECEMBER 1,
MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO CHOW SHU-KAI HELD A PRESS CON-
FERENCE DECEMBER 5 WHICH WAS PROMINENTLY REPORTED IN LOCAL
PAPERS DECEMBER 6. CHOW IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT THE
"FLEXIBLE DIPLOMACY" WITH WHICH HE IS CREDITED DOES NOT
EXTEND TO BEING FLEXIBLE ABOUT THE GROC'S BASIC POLICY OF
ANTI-COMMUNISM. WHATEVER ABOUT THE GROC'S RELATIONS WITH OTHER
COUNTRIES, HE SAID, IT WILL NEVER LEAVE THE FREE WORLD.
HE DENIED THAT HIS POSTING TO THE VATICAN HAD ANYTHING
TO DO WITH ROC/US OR ROC/USSR RELATIONS.

2. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH IT IS POSSIBLE THAT CHOW INTEN-
TIONALLY RAISED THE SOVIET SPECTRE IN ORDER TO INJECT
THIS BUGABOO INTO OUR CHINA POLICY DELIBERATIONS, IT IS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TAIPEI 07272 061013Z

MORE LIKELY THAT THE SUBJECT CAME UP NATURALLY IN THE
COURSE OF HIS MEETING WITH THE PRESS, AND WAS ANSWERED
WITH THE STANDARD OFFICIAL DENIAL. HOWEVER, CHOW'S
ADVOCACY OF "FLEXIBLE DIPLOMACY" (WHICH SOME INTERPRETED
AS LEADING TO RELATIONS WITH "NON-HOSTILE" COMMUNIST
COUNTRIES SUCH AS THE USSR) REPORTEDLY CONTRIBUTED TO
HIS DEMOTION FROM FOREIGN MINISTER TO MINISTER WITHOUT

PORTFOLIO IN MAY 1972. HIS IMPENDING ASSIGNMENT TO THE VATICAN WILL PUT HIM IN A GOOD POSITION TO TALK TO A WIDE VARIETY OF FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVES. HOWEVER, WE EXPECT HIS PRINCIPAL RESPONSIBILITY WILL BE TO SEEK IMPROVEMENT IN THE GROC'S UNOFFICIAL RELATIONS WITH EUROPEAN COUNTRIES AND THE EEC.
UNGER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AMBASSADORS, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 06-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977TAIPEI07272
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770452-0348
Format: TEL
From: TAIPEI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771286/aaaacvvh.tel
Line Count: 69
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4868a70a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 TAIPEI 7049, 77 HONG KONG 14847
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 339134
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NEW ROC AMBASSADOR TO THE VATICAN
TAGS: PDIP, TW, VT
To: STATE ROME
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4868a70a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009